

**ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER &  
STATE ANIMAL INSPECTOR**

**Michael McClay**

My position as the Dalton Animal Control Officer and State Animal Inspector started in August 2004. Within the last six months there have been many dog/cat issues. Many owners had failed to restrain and license their dogs. There were also many violations regarding pet owners not vaccinating their cats and dogs with the rabies vaccine, which is required by law. Cats were the number 3 carrier of rabies in Massachusetts last year. As a reminder to all pet owners, please do not allow your animal(s) to defecate on public or private property. This offense can carry a fine of up to \$300.00.

I have assisted many pet owners with questions that they had about the care and well-being of their animals. I am also available to help with any wildlife issues or problems that occur. Do not feed or approach any wildlife, as they may become aggressive or carry disease. If you see a sick or injured animal, please call the Dalton Animal Control Office or Police Department.

Please remember that dog licenses are due on January 1, 2005. Late notices will be mailed after April 1, 2005, and there is a \$10.00 late fee, plus a \$25.00 fine for failure to license.

If any town resident has questions or problems, my business hours are Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. I am on call for any emergencies. My direct phone number is 413/684-6111, ext. 28.

I look forward to assisting Dalton Town residents with any pet owner questions or problems.